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CHESTER-LE-STREET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

BRIDGE END

CHESTER-LE-STREET

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR 1972

J. L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health



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Printed by Norman Ward Ltd., Low Fell.

CHESTER-LE-STREET URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
BRIDGE END,
CHESTER-LE-STREET.

*The Chairman and Members of the
Chester-le-Street Urban District Council*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the year 1972.

There were only minor changes in the vital statistics as compared with 1972—the birth rate fell slightly; the death rate rose slightly as did the Infant Mortality Rate. Apart from Measles there were only 2 other Infectious Diseases notified.

The services provided for the elderly continued during the year with voluntary help still performing a valuable role.

Mr. McKenna the approved officer for the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act has again provided his Annual Report for inclusion.

With regard to housing there has been a notable increase in rehousing from condemned property and almost twice the number of houses were condemned as compared with 1971.

The increase in the number of houses improved by grant aid was a remarkable feature of the housing scene for 1972. The grants increased by 475% as compared with 1971.

I wish to thank, in addition to the voluntary workers, the Chairman and all members of the Council for their continued support and help and also the various members of the staff for their efforts during the year.

Yours faithfully,

J. L. SIDDLE,

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH COMMITTEE

1972

COUNCILLOR J. WILLIS (*Chairman*)

COUN. J. A. CUNNINGHAM,
B.SC., PH.D., M.P.

COUN. T. E. DAVISON

COUN. W. H. DEAN

COUN. W. GOWLAND

COUN. N. LAMB

COUN. C. F. C. LAWSON, D.L., J.P.

COUN. D. H. MARSHALL

COUN. T. MCHUGH

COUN. J. MOSS

COUN. M. PRATT

COUN. J. R. REAY
(deceased April, 1973)

COUN. MRS. D. H. RIDDELL,
O.B.E., J.P.

COUN. N. RIDDELL

COUN. H. THOMAS, B.A.

COUN. L. STOREY

COUN. W. WATSON

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health:

JOHN LANGLEY SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
(Joint appointment with R.D.C. and Durham C.C.)

Chief Public Health Inspector:

PHILIP MCKENNA, M.A.P.H.I., C.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector:

KEITH ATKINSON, M.A.P.H.I.

Clerical Staff:

LINDA ANNE WRIGHT

County Area No. 4 Clerk:

AUDREY LUGSDEN

Rodent Operative:

RICHARD VICKERS

SECTION A

STATISTICAL AND LOCAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA

I. Natural and Social Conditions Area—2,656 acres

The district is divided into six Wards, being almost completely encircled by the Chester-le-Street Rural District.

The Ward Acreages are as follows:—

North (East }	578
(West) }	
West	381
Central	160
South (Pt.1) }	491
(Pt.2) }	
Pelton Fell (Pt.1) }	678
(Pt.2) }	
Chester Moor	368

Industries

With the ending of Coal Mining in the District, the Town is essentially residential.

Population

The Registrar General's estimated Mid-year population for 1972 was 20,660, as compared to 20,570 for 1971.

The change in population over the years is shown by the following figures:

1950	..	..	..	..	18,620
1955	..	..	..	..	18,370
1960	..	..	..	..	18,770
1965	..	..	..	..	19,720
1967	..	..	..	..	20,300
1968	..	..	..	..	20,650
1969	..	..	..	..	20,800
1970	..	..	..	..	20,870
1971	..	..	..	..	20,570
1972	..	..	..	..	20,660

Inhabited Houses

Numbers and types are given below:

Inhabited houses	..	..	7,869
Terraced Houses	..	..	1,831
Detached Houses	..	..	233
Semi-Detached Houses	..		2,051
Farm Houses and Cottages..			8
Houses and shops combined			37
Council Houses	..	..	3,709

Rateable Value=£1,783,017 Estimated Product of the Penny Rate=£16,304

Births

In 1972 there were 302 live births (crude birth rate 14.6) as compared with 333 in 1971 (crude birth rate 15.9).

	<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Legitimate</i>	<i>Illigitimate</i>	<i>Legitimate</i>	<i>Illigitimate</i>	
Live Births	142	14	137	9	302
Still Births ..	1	—	—	1	2
Total Births ..	143	14	137	10	304

Area Comparability Factor for Births: 1.04.

The Ratio of the Adjusted Birth Rate to the National Rate was 1.03

TABLE 1

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1972

	Rate per 1,000 Total Population	Rate per 1,000 Total Births	Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population										Rate per 1,000 live Births
			All Causes	Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	Pneumonia	Influenza	Tuberculosis (all forms)	Acute Polio- myelitis & polio- encephalitis	Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus	Coronary and arteriosclerotic heart disease	Total Deaths under 1 year of age	
ENGLAND AND WALES	14.8	12.0	12.1	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.06	0.03	0.00	0.65		17.0	
DURHAM COUNTY	14.8	12.0	12.3	0.00	0.00	0.86	0.07	0.03	0.00	0.61	3.34	19.0	
CHESTER-LE-STREET	14.6	7.0	14.3	0.00	0.00	1.8	0.10	0.05	0.00	0.72	4.2	23.0	

TABLE 2

Causes of Death	Total all Ages		Under 1 Year	1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75 and over
	M.	F.										
Enteritis and Other Diarrhoeal Diseases	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	1	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	11	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	8	5	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1
Leukaemia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Malignant Neoplasms	10	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	9	1
Diabetes Mellitus	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1
Other Endocrine, Etc. Diseases	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Mental Disorders	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	3	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hypertensive Disease	2	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	3	4
Ischaemic Heart Disease	62	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	20	21	28
Other Forms of Heart Disease	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	5
Cerebrovascular Disease	15	22	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	8	22
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	10
Influenza	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	24	13	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	7	24
Bronchitis and Emphysema	12	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	5	6
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
Peptic Ulcer	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Diseases of Digestive System	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	1
All other Accidents	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	170	126	7	1	2	3	—	5	34	52	73	119

Deaths

The total number of deaths in the district for 1972 was 296 as compared with 281 in 1971.

The following were the chief causes of death during the year:

TABLE 3

<i>Causes of Death</i>	1972		1971	
	<i>Number of Deaths</i>	<i>Per cent of total Deaths</i>	<i>Number of Deaths</i>	<i>Per cent of total Deaths</i>
1. Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System	153	51.7	137	48.7
2. Cancer	55	18.5	57	20.3
3. Respiratory Diseases	56	18.5	49	17.4
4. Violent: Road Traffic Accidents (3) Suicide (0)	5	1.6	12	4.3
5. Tuberculosis	1	0.3	0	0

Cancer

Deaths from cancer numbered 55 a figure only 2 less than that for 1971. The largest individual figures were due to cancer of the gastro-intestinal tract-11 and cancer of the lungs and bronchus-15.

Coronary Artery Disease

Deaths under this heading rose sharply from 66 in 1971, to 87 in 1972 and so restored the figure to what it had been prior to the big fall in 1971. The death rate being 4.2 per 1,000 population. Of the 87 deaths, 38 were in persons under 65 years of age and 18 of the total were under 55 years of age.

Respiratory Diseases

The number of deaths under this heading showed little change as compared with the previous year. 37 persons died as a result of pneumonia of which 24 were over 75 years of age.

Violent Deaths

Deaths from accidents fell from 12 in 1971 to 5 in 1972. Of these 5 deaths 4 were due to accidents involving motor vehicles.

Infant Mortality

There were 7 deaths of children under 1 year of age during the year. The Infant Mortality Rate being 23 as compared with 18 for 1971. Of the 7 deaths 3 of the infants were under 1 week of age.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(1) Laboratory Facilities

The Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle is in the New Institute of Pathology at the General Hospital, Newcastle.

The Director is Dr. J. H. Hale.

The Laboratory continued to help the department by carrying out bacteriological examination of various samples (water, ice-cream, etcetera) submitted by the Health Department.

(2) Health Service Provided by the County Council

The administrative County is divided up into areas, Chester-le-Street Urban and Rural districts forming No. 4 area. For each area a Health Sub-Committee has been appointed to exercise on behalf of the County Health Committee, certain functions relating to services under the National Health Act, 1946.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the statistics concerning the services in this part of the report.

(a) Clinics

The Mains Farm House, West Lane Clinic, is used to provide accommodation for various clinics run by the County Council.

Telephone number: Chester-le-Street 3286.

Ante-Natal
Relaxation
Child Welfare

(b) Distribution of Welfare Foods

National dried milk and vitamin tablets are distributed from the Welfare Centre as follows:—

Tuesday—all day
Wednesday—morning only

(c) *Midwives*

There are three Midwives residing and practising inside the district, and one residing outside the district. A summary of the work done is given below:—

Total Births (Live and still)	..	..	..	50
Hospital patients discharged before 10th day	..			144

(d) *Ambulance Depot*

The Chester-le-Street Urban District is served principally by the Ambulance Depot situated at Osborne Road, Chester-le-Street. Details of the service for 1972 are given as:—

1.	Total number of persons who used the service	..				25,878
2.	Number of sitting cases	..	..	..	..	20,633
3.	Number of stretcher cases	..	..	..	..	5,245
4.	Mileage	..	..	..	..	155,284

(e) *Prevention of Illness and After-care*

Under this section of the National Health Service Act, the Durham County Council supply nursing requisites on loan to those who need them. A small store of articles is available at short notice at the No. 4 Area Health Office, Bridge End.

(f) *School Health Service*

The School Health Services in the area are provided by the County Council. The Service provides for systematic medical examination of pupils in the school and dental treatment of school children.

The school clinic for the area is now at Chester-le-Street.

(3) **Hospital Services**

Newcastle Regional Hospital Board	..	..	Benfield Road, Walkergate, Newcastle upon Tyne.
Durham Hospital Management Committee	..		Dryburn Hospital, Durham

General:

Dryburn Hospital, Durham
County Hospital, Durham
St. Margaret's Hospital, Durham
General Hospital, Chester-le-Street
Highfield Hospital, Chester-le-Street

Maternity:
Dryburn Hospital, Durham

Infectious Diseases:
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead
Langley Park Isolation Hospital (emergency reserve)

Tuberculosis:
Chest Clinic, General Hospital, Chester-le-Street
Mass Radiography Unit, Dryburn Hospital, Chester-le-Street
Maiden Law Hospital, Lanchester

Mental :
Winterton Hospital, Sedgefield
Aycliffe Hospital
Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital
General Hospital, Chester-le-Street

Venereal Disease:
General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne

(4) **Executive Council**

The Executive Council for the County of Durham is the body responsible for the administration of the General Practitioners Services in the District.

The General Practitioners Services consist of the Family Doctor Service, the General Dental Service, the Pharmaceutical Service and the Supplementary Ophthalmic Service, each providing the patient with the individual attention needed. These services are available to all civilians according to their medical needs.

There are 12 General Practitioners practising in the Urban Area.

(5) **National Assistance Act, 1948**

(a) *Meals on Wheels*

The service has continued to run on the same lines as for previous years. The Women's Royal Voluntary Service has continued to provide voluntary drivers and helpers and Rodney Dresses Canteen has supplied meals. In both cases thanks must be given for their continued assistance.

In all 5,706 meals were delivered.

(b) *Luncheon Clubs*

The four clubs continued to operate throughout the year although the voluntary help has at times been difficult. Meals were in many cases carried out from the luncheon clubs to nearby residents needing meals but not able to attend.

As the voluntary help available becomes smaller we must be even more thankful for the help given by those who continue the good work.

Meals served during the year:—

<i>Luncheon Club</i>	<i>Meals served at Luncheon Club</i>	<i>Meals served at recipients home</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bullion Hall	6307	242	6549 (7184)
South Pelaw	6102	1032	7134 (5802)
Pelton Fell	4629	220	4849 (5219)
Chester Moor	338	—	338 (—)
TOTAL.....	17376	1494	18870 (18205)

(Last years figures are given in parenthesis)

The total meals served for pensioners, Meals on Wheels and Luncheon Clubs during 1972 was 24,576 as compared with 23,457 the previous year.

(c) *Holidays for the Aged*

24 pensioners were sent to Southport for a weeks holiday. This was the seventh year that the scheme has been continued.

Two voluntary helpers went with the party to attend to their needs.

(6) **Chiropody—Aged Persons**

Clinics continued to be held in the Bullion Hall, South Pelaw Hall, Village Hall Pelton Fell and Chester Moor Recreation Room.

The British Red Cross Society organise the sessions with the aid of a grant from the Durham County Council. In each case the Urban District Council permit the use of their premises for the clinics.

Treatments were given as follows:—

Number of persons ..	..	..	..	..	304
Number of Treatments ..	..	..	..	..	987
Bullion Hall ..	..	..	..	..	140
South Pelaw ..	..	..	..	..	110
Pelton Fell ..	..	..	..	..	36
Chester Moor ..	..	..	..	..	18

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Piped water is supplied to the town by the Durham County Water Board. Routine samples are taken by the Public Health Inspector and sent for bacteriological and chemical examination at fairly frequent intervals and additional samples are submitted in the case of a complaint.

All cases were found to be satisfactory.

Lead and Copper in Domestic Water Supplies

During the year some concern was expressed regarding the levels of lead and copper in drinking water. This is due to a chemical reaction between the water and lead and copper supply pipes. If water is allowed to remain in contact with the pipes then contamination of supplies occurs. This is most likely to occur overnight and the first draw off is likely to have the highest concentration of these metals. Samples were taken as follows:

1. First draw off in morning.
2. After running water for 30 seconds.

Results indicated that the levels of lead and copper were well within the limits laid down by the World Health Organisation.

Householders should use cold water supply only for drinking water and run the cold water supply for 30 seconds first thing in the morning before drawing off any water.

Fluoridation of Water Supply

Fluoride is added to the water supply of the Honey Hill treatment works of the Durham County Water Board which supplies water to the district. An amount of 1. p.p.m. is added and samples taken by the Board during the year were generally satisfactory. One sample was taken by the department and found to have a Fluoride content of 1.1 p.p.m.

Water Consumption

Chester-le-Street Urban District is in the Northern Division of the Durham County Water Board.

Consumption of water continues to rise as is shown by the figures below.:—

				<i>Domestic gallons per head, per day</i>	<i>Trade gallons per head per day</i>	<i>Total</i>
1968	..	..	..	30	15	45
1969	..	..	..	31	16	47
1970	..	..	..	31	16	47
1971	..	..	..	32	16	48
1972	..	..	..	34	18	52

A rise of 4 gallons per head per day means for Chester-le-Street Urban District an increased daily consumption of 82,640 gallons which is about 30 million extra gallons needed in 1972 above what was supplied in 1971.

Disinfestations

During the year treatment was carried out in 76 premises in order to deal with infestations of various types; namely, Red Mite, Cockroaches, Wasps.

Clean Air Act, 1956—1968

No serious complaints arose from atmospheric pollution during the year. Smoke emissions from industrial premises were found to be due to mechanical defects or overloading of plant. All complaints were remedied without recourse to formal action.

The Council has not declared any smoke control Areas in the district but there has been a decrease in emissions due to (a) demolition of older property with coal fires (b) conversion to smokeless fuels in existing houses, both by the Council & Private owners in connection with Home Improvement Schemes (c) Many householders providing central heating by using smokeless fuel partly for convenience with no storage, cleaning or attendance problems.

All Council houses built were provided with central heating served by appliances burning smokeless fuel.

Two applications were received regarding the installation of boilers. In both cases the chimney heights proposed were adequate and permission was granted.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1954

At the end of the year there were 16 scrap metal dealers registered by the authority.

The Council is required to keep a register of such dealers and to register upon application, any scrap metal dealer trading from premises in the area.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

3 licences for the keeping of pet shops were issued during the year.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

During the year 8 premises were newly registered. At the end of the year a total of 200 premises were registered employing 1,560 workers.

There were 30 General Inspections carried out during the year, particular attention was given to the condition of floors, passages and staircases as almost one third of the contraventions recorded for 1971 related to defects of these items.

Ten non-fatal accidents were notified. It was found necessary to investigate two accidents as these involved machinery. In both cases the machines were found to be correctly guarded and the accidents attributed to the incorrect operation of machinery.

During inspections it was found that compliance with the Act and regulations was of a high standard, several employers are modernising and improving their premises and incorporating improved facilities for employees in the plans.

It was not necessary to use section 22 of the Act during the year (power of local authorities to apply to Magistrates Court for orders putting down dangerous conditions and practices). In fact it has not been necessary to use this section since the Act came into operation, as compliance is usually secured by informal means.

Registration and General Inspections

<i>Class of Premises</i>	<i>Number of premises registered during the year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises at end of year</i>	<i>Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year</i>
Offices	3	57	4
Retail Shops	5	119	25
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	1	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	—	23	1
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—
Totals ..	8	200	30

Total number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises under the Act: 40.

In this Schedule

“general inspection” means any inspection of premises to which the Act applies which is undertaken for the purpose of ascertaining whether all the relevant provisions of the Act and instruments thereunder are complied with as respects those premises; and “registered premises” means any premises in respect of which a notice under Section 49 of the Act has been received by a local authority or by the Greater London Council and the expression “premises registered” shall be construed accordingly.

(c) Analysis by Workplace of persons Employed in Registered Premises at end of year.

<i>Class of Workplace</i>	<i>Number of Persons Employed</i>
Offices	309
Retail Shops	1,019
Wholesale departments, Warehouses ..	2
Catering establishments open to the public ..	230
Canteens	—
Fuel storage depots	—
Total	1,560
Total Males ..	505
Total Females ..	1,055

(d) Exemptions

No application for exemptions were received.

(e) Prosecutions

It was not necessary to institute proceedings during the year.

(f) Reported Accidents

<i>Workplace</i>	<i>Number Reported</i>		<i>Total Number Investigated</i>	<i>Action recommended</i>			
	<i>Fatal</i>	<i>Non-Fatal</i>		<i>Prosecution</i>	<i>Formal Warning</i>	<i>Informal Advice</i>	<i>No Action</i>
Offices ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Shops	—	7	2	—	1	—	1
Wholesale shops Warehouses ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Catering establishments open to public, canteens ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fuel storage depots ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	—	10	2	—	1	—	1

(g) Analysis of Reported Accidents

	<i>Offices</i>	<i>Retail Shops</i>	<i>Wholesale Warehouses</i>	<i>Catering establishments open to public, canteens</i>	<i>Fuel Storage Depots</i>
Machinery	—	1	—	—	—
Transport	—	—	—	—	—
Falls of persons ..	2	2	—	1	—
Stepping on or striking against object or persons ..	—	—	—	—	—
Handling goods ..	—	2	—	—	—
Struck by falling object	—	1	—	—	—
Fires and explosions	—	—	—	—	—
Electricity	—	—	—	—	—
Use of hand tools	—	—	—	—	—
Not otherwise specified	—	1	—	—	—

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

No complaints were received during the year. On several occasions it was observed that pneumatic road drills were being used without silencers. On these occasions the contractors were contacted and requested to provide mufflers. The contractors readily agreed and the noise produced was reduced to a more acceptable level.

FACTORIES ACT 1961

PART ONE OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purpose of the provisions as to health (including inspections made by the PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of</i>		<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i>
		<i>Inspections</i>	<i>Written Notices</i>	
1. Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.. ..	—	—	—	—
2. Factories not included in 1, in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	54	10	5	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker's premises)	12	10	2	—
Total	66	20	7	—

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Number of cases in which defects</i>				<i>Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>Remedied</i>	<i>Referred</i>		
			<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) . .	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage to floors (S.6) . .	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient . .	2	2	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective . .	5	4	—	—	—
(c) Not sep. for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	7	6	—	1	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of Instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing } Making etc. .. Apparel } Cleaning and .. } Washing ..	4	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	—	—	—	—	—

10. RATS AND MICE (Prevention of Damage by Pests) Act, 1949

	<i>Type of property</i>	
	<i>Non-Agricultural</i>	<i>Agricultural</i>
1. Number of properties in district ..	9217, (9,053)	8 (8)
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	278 (250)	— (—)
(b) Number infested by:—		
(i) Rats	169 (142)	— (—)
(ii) Mice	109 (108)	— (—)
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	361 (254)	8 (8)
(b) Number infested by:—		
(i) Rats	78 (160)	2 (—)
(ii) Mice	45 (94)	— (—)

(Last years figures are given in parenthesis)

Rodent Control

282 complaints of rodent infestation were received during the year an increase of 18 on the previous year.

The number of visits made by your rodent operator was 960 which included investigation and “follow up” treatments. In addition 361 Routine Visits were made.

Investigations of Infestation Complaints

	<i>Notification</i>	<i>Visits by Rodent Operative following complaints</i>	<i>Insects etc.</i>
January	27	101	2
February	22	74	2
March	22	74	3
April	21	71	15
May	15	53	14
June	15	54	7
July	} 31	} 101	} 18
August			
September	24	87	6
October	29	89	2
November	36	111	6
December	40	136	1
Total	282	960	76

Sewer Treatments

The annual treatment of sewers was carried out during the year and baits were laid in 125 manholes. There were 8 takes recorded indicating small infestations of rats.

SECTION D

There were 100 Council houses completed during the year. 12 were completed by private builders.

Houses Built since 1953.

	1953-1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	Total
New Permanent Council Houses	713	122	70	43	84	53	54	109	54	33	16	26	4	239	100	1,731
Re-Lets	410	76	118	146	117	104	122	157	113	130	138	206	178	240	88	2,343
Private	86	23	39	72	98	131	143	120	184	143	161	138	6	15	12	1,371

Rehousing

Rehousing on medical priority was granted to 11 families during the year. 27 families were rehoused from condemned property.

Rehousing from condemned property for the past ten years:—

1963	..	..	49
1964	..	..	23
1965	..	..	40
1966	..	..	21
1967	..	..	31
1968	..	..	19
1969	..	..	19
1970	..	..	8
1971	..	..	12
1972	..	..	27

Unfit Houses

In order to eliminate bad housing conditions the rate of inspection of properties was increased during the year. 49 Representations were made, as a result of which, 47 demolition orders were made, one closing order made and in the other case the property was purchased by the Council.

Undertakings not to re-let houses after the Council had rehoused the existing tenants, were received from the owner of a further 18 properties.

Following action taken the previous years 11 houses were demolished and 1 house closed.

In one case a closing order in respect of part of a house was determined as improvements and repairs had been carried out and the house made fit.

Improvement Grants (Private Houses)

Following an encouraging year in 1971 there was an overwhelming increase in the number of persons enquiring about grant aid to improve their property. Many inspections were made and resulted in the Council approving 287 Grants, totalling £338,551.00.

144 Grants were completed during the year and a total of £158,898 paid.

Housing standards are being raised to a high level with the aid of these grants, although it is estimated that there are approximately a further 800 houses which may qualify for grant aid.

Standard Grants (Private Houses)

Interest regarding these grants was maintained although they are usually limited to specific areas of the district where improvement to the 12 points standard of improvement grants is not possible.

65 Applications were approved and grants totalling £28,530.00 were made.

40 houses were provided with the standard amenities during the year at a cost of £15,649.00.

<i>Summary</i>				1972	<i>Total</i> 1959/1972
Number of applications approved	..	..		65	487
Number of houses improved	..	..	..	40	391
Amount paid in grants	..	..	..	£15,649	£75,749

It is estimated that there are 620 houses—including 145 tenanted properties—which lack one or more basic amenities. Although applications for grants have been approved in respect of 184 of these houses the necessary works have not yet been carried out.

Qualification Certificates

The Housing Act 1972 provides that an owner of a dwelling having a controlled tenancy may make application for a qualification certificate to enable him to apply to the Rent Officer for the tenancy to be changed to a Regulated tenancy subject to the dwelling being provided with all the standard amenities and being in a state of good repair.

1 application was received during the year and four certificates were issued. 6 applications were made for Certificates of Provisional Approval and four issued.

In the remaining cases the qualifying conditions were not met and the owners were informed and given the opportunity of bringing their dwellings up to standard.

Houses in Multiple Occupation

There are known to be 4 houses in multiple occupation in the town. In three cases satisfactory facilities are provided. The other property is the subject of a Demolition Order.

SECTION E

Inspection and Supervision of Food and Food Premises

Premises to which the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations apply placed in groups according to principal trade:—

Licenced Clubs	..	..	..	..	9
General Dealers and Supermarkets	..	..	..	..	37
Dispensing Chemists	..	..	..	..	3
Confectioner (Sweets)	..	..	..	..	12
Confectioner (Bakery)	..	..	..	..	9
Fish and Chip Shops	..	..	..	..	8
Butcher	..	..	..	..	5
Cafes and Restaurants	..	..	..	..	11
Public Houses	..	..	..	..	18
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	..	..	..	..	7
Canteens	..	..	..	..	7
Ice Cream Factories	..	..	..	..	1
Wet Fish Shops	..	..	..	..	3
Bakery	..	..	..	..	2
School Kitchens and Canteens	..	..	..	..	5
Pasteurised Liquid Egg Factory	..	..	..	..	1
Total	..	..	..	..	138

Food Premises

Regular inspections were made of premises to which the Regulations applied. Particular attention was given to catering premises and to premises where open food was sold.

Milk and Dairies

Only milk of specified designations may be sold in the district. The granting of Dealers Licenses authorising the use of special designations is the responsibility of the Durham County Council.

The County Council staff take samples of milk for examination and copies of the results are sent to the Chester-le-Street Urban District Council, Health Department. In all 75 samples were reported on, the results are shown in the table below:—

<i>Designation</i>				
Untreated	..	..	..	10
Pasteurised	..	..	..	41
Sterilised	..	..	..	18
U.H.T.	..	..	..	6

<i>Test Result</i>			<i>Passed</i>	<i>Void</i>	<i>Failed</i>
Methylene Blue Test	..	..	47	—	4
Phosphatase Test	..	..	41	—	—
Turbidity Test	..	..	18	—	—
Biological Test for T.B.	..	..	3	—	—
Antibiotic Test	..	..	10	—	—
Colony Count	..	..	6	—	—

In addition 24 samples were taken from Hospitals in the district

Meat and Other Foods

The following foodstuffs were found by the Public Health Inspector to be unsound and were voluntarily surrendered:—

	<i>Lbs.</i>
Canned Meat & Meat Products.. ..	126
Other Canned Foods (Fruit & Vegetables)	119
Other Foods	89
Frozen Foods due to Cabinet breakdown	409
Total ..	<hr/> 743 <hr/>

Food Complaints

18 complaints regarding food sold locally were made to the department. 7 complaints related to the presence of mould, one case concerned the presence of foreign objects and 5 alleging unsoundness.

Prosecutions

During the year there were 6 prosecutions taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The fines and costs awarded amounted to £154

Food and Drugs Sampling

This is carried out by the Weights and Measures Department of the Durham County Council. 108 samples were taken during the year in the district and in 3 cases it was found necessary to caution Manufacturers regarding lists of ingredients being incomplete.

SECTION F

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and Other Diseases

There were 97 notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1972 as compared with 39 for 1971. Of the 97 cases 95 were measles.

Measles

The figure of 95 notifications in 1972 indicates that further effort is needed to get children vaccinated against the disease.

Scarlet Fever

There was only one case notified during the year.

Tuberculosis

Only one new case was notified during the year and one death from the disease was recorded.

Although there have been 3 years recently when there were no deaths in the district from tuberculosis, only on one previous occasion has there been only one new case notified during the year.

B.C.G.

The B.C.G. scheme for vaccination of 11 year old children was carried out as normal.

In co-operation with the Chest Physician tuberculin positive cases were x-rayed.

The figures were as follows:—

<i>School</i>	<i>Number Tuberculin Tested</i>	<i>Number Positive</i>	<i>Per cent Positive</i>	<i>Number Vaccinated</i>
Deanery Secondary	106	5	4.7	101
Hermitage Secondary	95	6	5.8	81
Total ..	201	11	5.4	182

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1972

	Under 1 year	1—5 years	6—15 years	16—25 years	26—45 years	46—65 years	66 and up	Age Unknown	All Ages	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total Notifications	Admitted to Hospital
Measles	2	62	29	—	1	—	—	1	95	8	6	24	5	3	4	—	—	5	20	10	10	95	—
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Tuberculosis (Pul.) ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Paratyphoid ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

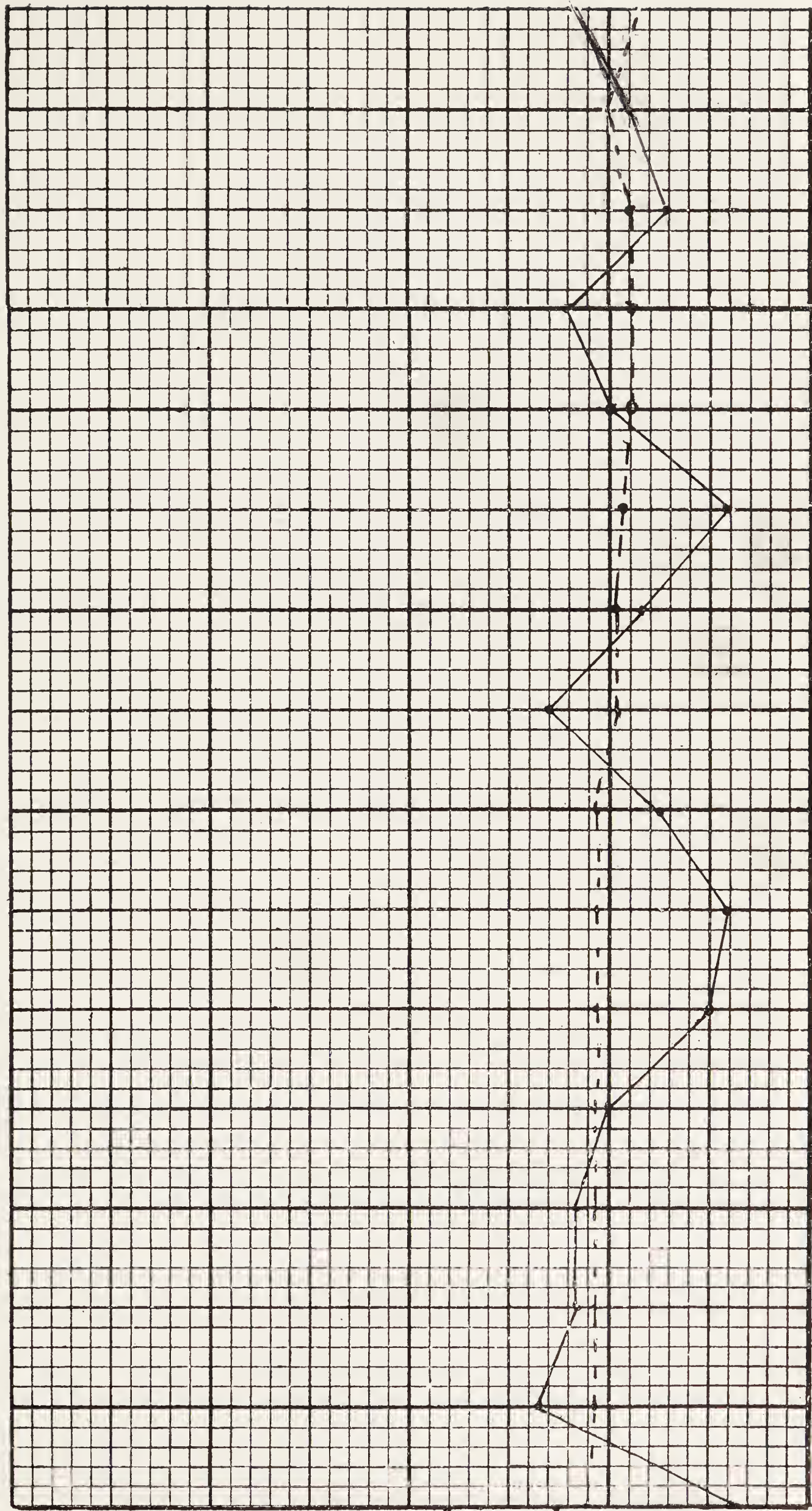
INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED SINCE 1954

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Scarlet Fever	7	4	7	14	6	3	—	1	1	4	6	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	1
Enteric Fever (including Para-typhoid fever)	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia	13	9	2	8	2	4	9	6	6	7	13	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	17	18	38	9	13	7	15	—	4	14	9	3	5	—	—	3	—	—	—
Measles	18	131	18	264	14	251	14	282	6	276	55	146	344	77	160	7	57	28	95
Food Poisoning ..	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	8	3	2	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	3	1	2	3	—	—	—	1	—	8	8	6	3	—	4	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Pul.) ..	15	16	14	10	8	9	6	11	10	6	4	11	7	3	5	1	9	6	1
Tuberculosis (Non-Pul.)	4	1	2	2	2	3	—	1	1	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
Acute Encephalitis (Infective)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	1	—	—

CHESTER-LE-STREET U.D. —————
ENGLAND AND WALES - - - - -

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

RATE PER
1000 LIVE BIRTHS



1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 1969 1970 1971 1972

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE

CHESTER-LE-STREET U.D. _____

RATE PER 1000 POPULATION

ENGLAND AND WALES - - - - -

